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IN SNUB TO GUV, KERALA HC ALLOWS 8 VCs TO CONTINUE

Kochi: The Kerala High Court on Monday said the vice-chancellors of 8 universities can continue in their respective posts and they can be removed only after following due procedure. The court, which heard a plea filed by the 8 vice-chancellors, who were given an ultimatum by Governor and Chancellor Arif Mohammed Khan to resign, said the communication sent by the chancellor was not proper. **P5**

SUNAK IS 1ST INDIAN-ORIGIN UK PM

The 42-year-old will enter 10 Downing Street, to be the youngest PM in 210 years

AGENCIES @ London

RISHI Sunak will make history as Britain's first Indian-origin Prime Minister after being elected unopposed as the new leader of the governing Conservative Party on Diwali as Penny Mordaunt withdrew from the race.

The 42-year-old former Chancellor of Exchequer, a devout Hindu, will enter 10 Downing Street to be the youngest British prime minister in 210 years, after his audience with King Charles III at Buckingham Palace, which is likely to be on Tuesday. He will be the first Hindu Prime Minister of Indian heritage in the UK.

In his first address as Tory leader soon after the result was declared, Sunak said his priority would be to bring the country together and said he was "humbled and honoured" to get the 'greatest privilege' of his life to give back to the country 'I owe so much'.

Sunak will be moving into 10, Downing Street at a time when Britain's economy is facing a triple whammy of slowing growth, high inflation triggered by spiralling energy prices in the wake of the Ukraine war and a budget shortfall that has eroded its financial credibility internationally.

His first task will be to restore Britain's international financial credibility after outgoing leader Truss's plan for unfunded tax cuts and a costly energy price guarantee spooked the bond market.

"Congratulations @RishiSunak on being appointed as Leader of the Conservative Party and our next Prime Minister. You have my full support," tweeted Liz Truss.

Sunak's vision for India-UK bilateral ties has gone beyond the opportunity for the UK to sell things in India, wanting Britain to also "learn from India".

During the campaign in the previous Tory leadership contest, the former investment banker had said he wants to change the UK-India relationship to make it more of a two-way exchange that opens up easy access to UK students and companies in India.

The B'luru connection

Rishi Sunak's wife Akshata Murthy, daughter of Infosys co-founder N R Narayana Murthy, holds 0.91% stake in Bengaluru-based IT company Infosys. She had tweeted in April that her long-standing share-holding in Infosys is not just a financial investment but also testament to her father's work.

Narendra Modi
@narendramodi

Warmest congratulations @RishiSunak! As you become UK PM, I look forward to working closely together on global issues, and implementing Roadmap 2030. Special Diwali wishes to the 'living bridge' of UK Indians, as we transform our historic ties into a modern partnership.

The wheel has come full circle. Britishers ruled India for over 200 years. Indians have taken lead in various fields, but Rishi Sunak becoming UK PM is quite special

Basavaraj Bommai, Chief Minister

Rishi Sunak leaves his campaign office in London on Monday | PTI

BRITAIN'S PM-ELECT HAS ROOTS IN PUNJAB

YESHI SELI @ New Delhi

RISHI Sunak was born on 12 May 1980 in Southampton, Hampshire, South East England, to Indian parents Yashvir and Usha Sunak, who were born in Kenya and Tanzania respectively. While Rishi's father was a general practitioner, his mother was a pharmacist who ran a medical store.

Rishi's grandparents were born in Punjab Province, British India, and emigrated to the UK in the 1960s from East Africa. Rishi is the eldest of three siblings. His brother Sanjay is a psychologist and his sister Rakhi works as the Head of Humanitarian, Peacebuilding, UN Funds and Programmes at the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office.

Rishi Sunak tied the knot with Akshata Murthy in August 2009. The couple has two daughters.

His wife is the daughter of Indian billionaire N R Narayana Murthy, and serves as the director at Catamaran Ventures.

She also runs her own fashion label and is among the wealthiest women in Britain.

An alumnus of Winchester College, Lincoln College, Oxford and Stanford Universities, Rishi, during his summer holidays, waited tables at a curry house in Southampton. **P9**

Pontiff of Kanchugal Bandemutt in Ramanagara dist found hanging

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

In a second case of suicide by a seer in the last 50 days in Karnataka, the pontiff of the Kanchugal Bandemutt reportedly ended his life in his living room inside the mutt premises in Kempapura village of Magadi taluk in Ramanagara district.

The deceased, **Basavalinga Swamiji**, (45), was found hanging from the grills of a window in his room. The incident came to light on Monday morning.

The seer has left behind a three-page death note, giving hints of being depressed over some people who were trying to defame him by making false accusations.

The seer is said to have taken the extreme step after performing his morning puja on Monday. Police sources said that some people were trying to remove him from his position. Besides trying to defame him, he was also being mentally harassed for some time.

The seer said in his suicide note that he was under depression for the last six months. About 10 to 15 people are suspected to have harassed the seer, of whom names of two suspects are said to have been mentioned in the death note.

CONTINUED ON: P3

Kite thread turns killer for Belagavi boy

SUNIL PATIL @ Belagavi

A thread used to fly kites, commonly called 'maanja', claimed the life of a six-year-old boy when he was sitting in front of his father who was riding a two-wheeler in Belagavi on Monday. The thread cut through the neck of the boy, killing him.

The deceased is Vardhan Iranna Byali of Hattargi village in Hukkeri taluk.

The father-son duo came to Belagavi to shop for Deepavali when the incident took place near Gandhi Nagar bridge. Vardhan's father Iranna didn't realise what had happened and people who gathered at the spot shifted the kid to a hospital where he was declared brought dead.

SPIRIT OF DIWALI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi offers sweets to a member of the Armed Forces during Diwali festival celebrations in Kargil on Monday | PTI | **P8**

EXPRESS READ

Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw's husband passes away

Bengaluru: John Shaw, the husband of Biocon executive chairperson Kiran Mazumdar Shaw, passed away on Monday at the age of 73. He was under treatment for cancer for some time. **P5**

Order on crackers a hasty decision: Experts

Bengaluru: KSPCB issued a series of circulars stating that bursting of crackers during Deepavali festive days is permitted only from 8 pm to 10 pm in designated places. Experts, however, say it's a hasty decision. **P3**

Shri Narendra Modi
Honourable Prime Minister of India

Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

"Let's celebrate Festival of Lights
Deepavali
through Lighting Lamps"

Shri Basavaraj Bommai
Honourable Chief Minister of Karnataka

On this Deepavali, let's light Environment-friendly clay lamps and minimize the bursting of crackers. Deepavali is the festival of lights, Let us avoid Air & Noise pollution.

Directives of Hon'ble Supreme Court

- Bursting crackers on Deepavali is permitted from 8PM to 10AM only.
- Bursting of crackers causing noise more than 125 dB(AI) is prohibited
- Only approved Green Crackers are allowed.

String Fireworks are prohibited.

Shri Anand Singh
Honourable Minister of Tourism, Ecology and Environment, Govt. of Karnataka attending the Department Program

Wishing you all
a very happy and safe
Deepavali

Let the home glow brightly with line of lamps.

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"Saving the country's forests, wildlife and rivers together"
-It is a constitutional fundamental duty of every Indian.

Dr. Shanth A. Thimmaiah
Chairman
Karnataka State Pollution Control Board